



BUZZ POINTS



TELANGANA TO RISE AS A GLOBAL SPORTS HUB: MINISTER SRIHARI

State Minister for Sports and Youth Services, Vakifti Srihari, declared that Telangana is set to transform into a "Sports Hub." He was speaking as the chief guest at the "Telangana Juventus Sports Diplomacy Initiative" program, a joint venture between the Telangana Sports Department and the renowned Italian football club, Juventus, held at the Gachibowli Stadium on Monday. The event was attended by high-ranking officials, including Government Sports Advisor A.P. Jitender Reddy, Special Chief Secretary Jayesh Ranjan, and SATG Chairman Siva Sena Reddy.

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REVANTH REDDY SANCTIONS ₹101 CR FOR SAMMAKKA SARALAMMA TEMPLE UPGRADE

Following up on the initial incomplete report, further information indicates that the sanction of ₹101 crores by Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy was specifically designated for the development of the famous Sammakka Saralamma Temple in Medaram.3 This significant allocation was announced during the Chief Minister's recent visit to the temple site, aiming to enhance infrastructure and facilities for devotees.

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KTR Files Complaint with EC Over Jubilee Hills Bypoll Irregularities

Former Minister and BRS Working President K. T. Rama Rao (KTR) lodged a formal complaint with the Telangana State Election Commission (TSEC) at BRK Bhavan on Monday, accusing the Congress party of malpractices in connection with the Jubilee Hills Assembly by-election. Speaking to the media after filing the complaint, KTR alleged that Congress leaders were resorting to conspiracies, inducements, and intimidation tactics against the constituency's voters.

TPN Bureau,

Hyderabad, Oct 13: KTR specifically claimed that Congress leaders are orchestrating a "grand conspiracy" in the by-election, contrasting their actions with the national narrative by stating that while AICC leader Rahul Gandhi speaks of "vote theft," Congress leaders themselves are engaging in it in Jubilee Hills. The key accusation in his complaint centers on the alleged creation of 20,000 "bogus votes" in the constituency. He backed his claim with documented evidence submitted to the

TSEC, citing specific examples of voters with multiple enrollments. KTR pointed out that one individual, Kovvuri Karthik, reportedly holds votes in three different locations, and another person, Deepak Sharma, is registered in two places. The BRS Working President further alleged that lower-level officials within the electoral system have colluded with the Congress party to manufacture these fraudulent votes. He vehemently demanded an immediate and thorough investigation into the matter of bogus votes. Fur-

thermore, he requested the Election Commission to take strict action against the lower-level officials found to be complicit with the Congress party's alleged conspiracy. KTR stressed the urgent need for the TSEC to ensure a fair and impartial conduct of the Jubilee Hills by-election. He made a clear and immediate demand to the TSEC: the 20,000 bogus votes must be deleted from the electoral rolls before the nomination process for the by-election is completed, ensuring the integrity of the voting process in the constituency.



CM Sanctions ₹60 Cr for Welfare Hostels, Pushes Tech Upgrades

TPN Bureau,

Hyderabad, Oct 13: During the high-level review, CM Revanth Reddy underscored the necessity of taking special care of the welfare hostels. He issued a series of directives focused on enhancing accountability, improving student welfare, and integrating technology.

The Chief Minister mandated the implementation of facial recognition systems for all students, teaching, and non-teaching staff across the hostels to ensure complete data accuracy and accountability in attendance and presence. To address student health and nutrition, the CM ordered the use of a special app to mon-

itor and ensure the quality of food provided. He stressed that students must receive nutritious, high-quality meals with proper caloric content. He also instructed senior officials to ensure uniforms and textbooks are distributed to students promptly and accurately. Furthermore, he directed that a complete, up-to-date dash-

board be maintained with real-time information on all facilities, resources, and maintenance status within the hostels. CM Revanth Reddy placed significant emphasis on student healthcare. He instructed that all welfare hostels be formally linked with government and private medical colleges, Community Health

Centres (CHCs), and Area Hospitals in every district. This linkage mandates regular medical camps at the hostels, ensuring doctors are available to students during emergencies. He further instructed District Collectors and Additional Collectors to frequently visit the hostels

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The Telangana state government, under the directive of Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, has sanctioned ₹60 crore from the Chief Minister's Relief Fund (CMRF) for emergency expenses across BC, SC, ST, and Minority welfare hostels. This crucial funding is designated for immediate needs, including diet charges, salaries for temporary staff, essential repairs such as motor maintenance, and other critical infrastructure requirements. The Chief Minister personally handed over the sanction cheques to senior officials of the respective departments following a comprehensive review meeting on welfare homes and educational institutions held at the ICCC on Monday.

Seethakka Meets BRAC on Telangana Poverty Alleviation Program



A delegation from the international non-governmental organization BRAC (Building Resources Across Communities) held a significant meeting with the Minister for Panchayat Raj and Rural Development, Seethakka, at the Secretariat in Hyderabad. The meeting focused on the progress of the Telangana Inclusive Livelihoods Programme (TGILP), an ambitious project aimed at improving the living standards of the poorest and most marginalized communities across the state.

TPN Bureau,

Hyderabad, Oct 13: BRAC is implementing the TGILP in collaboration with SERP (Society for Elimination of Rural Poverty), concentrating its efforts on achieving economic empowerment for target groups such as Adivasis, Joginis, and other ultra-poor families. The core objective of TGILP is to move these families towards sustainable self-reliance by providing a comprehensive pack-

age of support, including essential skill training, necessary incentives, access to loans, and subsidies, ensuring they can eventually generate their own income streams and attain long-term financial stability. During the meeting, the BRAC representatives presented a progress report on the TGILP's implementation to Minister Seethakka. They informed the Minister that, to date,

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Mahesh Goud Downplays Ministerial Disputes

TPN Bureau,

Hyderabad, Oct 13: Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) President Mahesh Kumar Goud has downplayed the ongoing disagreements among state ministers, calling them "a very small issue." Speaking to the media after meeting AICC President Mallikarjun Kharge in Delhi, Goud said the differences were internal matters that would be resolved within the party. "These are family issues that will be settled among ourselves. The

disputes have arisen only due to a lack of information," he clarified. Goud met Kharge to brief him on recent political developments in Telangana, including the issue of BC reservations and the High Court's stay on local body elections. He informed Kharge that the state government would soon challenge the High Court verdict in the Supreme Court. It may be recalled that Kharge recently underwent a pacemaker implant, and Goud also enquired about his health during the visit.

BJP Questions Congress' Alliance with MIM

TPN Bureau,

Hyderabad, Oct 13: BJP State President Ramachander Rao questioned whether the Congress would ally with the AIMIM or contest independently in the upcoming Jubilee Hills elections. He criticized the Congress for maintaining ties with MIM and stated that Congress leaders had earlier declared their cooperation with the Majlis. Rao alleged that the Congress had weakened itself by continuing this association. He urged the people of Jubilee Hills to seek clarity on the matter. Speaking to the media at the BJP state office, Ramachander Rao remarked that the Congress and MIM have long been working together, despite appearing as separate parties. "These two parties have been coordinating



secretly to divide votes. The Indian National Congress and MIM have turned this issue into a political game. The people of Jubilee Hills should recognize this deception," he said.

He further claimed that local Congress leaders and MIM representatives were attempting to mislead voters, but the BJP was confident that the public would see through these tactics and support the truth.

Uttam Kumar Reddy Pushes ₹1,000 Cr Devadula Water Project for Suryapet

TPN Bureau,

Hyderabad, Oct 13: State Minister for Irrigation and Civil Supplies, Captain N. Uttam Kumar Reddy, declared the Congress party's resolve to deliver Devadula water to the Thungathurthi constituency, announcing that proposals estimated at ₹1,000 crore are currently being prepared for this ambitious project. Speaking at an expanded Congress party meeting in Suryapet—held to collect feedback for the District Congress Committee (DCC) President selection—he

affirmed his dedication to the development of the Suryapet district. The meeting saw the participation of key party leaders, including party observer Sarat Rout, Kodad MLA Uttam Padmavathi, DCC President Cheviti Venkanna Yadav, and local Market Committee Chairman Koppula Venna Reddy. Minister Reddy highlighted that the current Congress government is working diligently to regulate the water supply from the Sriram Sagar Project (SRSP), which is critical for the region. He noted that



the original capacity of SRSP has decreased from 112 TMC to 80 TMC due to siltation, compounded by damaged canals and lining, which obstructs water flow to the tail-end areas. The

government plans to overcome these challenges by initiating desilting work in the SRSP project to restore its water storage capacity. The effort to increase the capacity is part of a broad-

er commitment to ensuring equitable water distribution to all of Suryapet.

Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy took the opportunity to credit the late leader and former

Minister R. Damodar Reddy (RDR) for securing SRSP water for the Suryapet district. He recalled participating in the “Raktatarpanam” (blood offering) protest organized by the Congress party under RDR's leadership when Y.S. Rajasekhara Reddy was the PCC President. To honor RDR's significant contribution and sustained struggle for SRSP water, Minister Reddy announced that Chief Minister Revanth Reddy has approved his proposal, made in his capacity as Irrigation Minister, to name the

SRSP Phase-2 project after R. Damodar Reddy. He stressed that this decision ensures the great leader's name will be eternally preserved in history. He also vowed to work collaboratively with everyone to fulfill the late leader's aspirations, acknowledging that his absence is a profound loss to the region. The Minister also mentioned other developmental achievements under the Congress, including the expansion of the National Highway passing through Suryapet to a six-lane road and the sanction

of a railway line for the district. Addressing agricultural concerns, he stated the government is prepared for the Vaanakalam (Kharif) paddy procurement, allocating ₹24,000 crore to purchase 80 lakh metric tonnes of paddy. He proudly noted that the three harvests since the current government took power have yielded a record 148.3 lakh metric tonnes of paddy, an unprecedented figure in history. The government's focus remains on strengthening the irrigation sector to ensure the prosperity of Suryapet district.

Hyderabad Introduces India's First QR Feedback System

TPN Bureau,

Hyderabad, Oct 13: Hyderabad: In a first-of-its-kind initiative in the country, Hyderabad District Collector Hari Chandana IAS has launched a QR code-based public feedback system at the Collectorate to enhance service efficiency. The system allows citizens to instantly share their experiences, suggestions, or grievances by simply scanning a QR code, eliminating delays and complex paperwork. Compatible with all smartphones, it ensures easy access for

people of all ages. Officials will now receive real-time feedback, enabling faster response, better accountability, and improved service quality. The initiative also provides data-driven insights to identify recurring issues and streamline operations. This move marks a significant step toward user-centric governance, leveraging technology to make public services more transparent, efficient, and responsive. Visitors to the Collectorate can now actively participate by scanning the QR codes displayed across the office.

Seethakka Eyes TGILP as Telangana Model to Eradicate Poverty

TPN BUREAU, HYD, Oct 13th Minister for Panchayat Raj and Rural Development, Dr. Danasari Anasuya Seethakka, expressed her vision for the Telangana Inclusive Livelihoods Programme (TGILP)—implemented by the international organization BRAC—to become the definitive “Telangana Model” for poverty eradication. She expressed confidence that the government would succeed in this “final battle against poverty” and assured BRAC of the state's full cooperation. She emphasized that the state government views this program not just as an aid initiative, but as a strategic tool to bring about fundamental social and economic transformation for the most marginalized. During a meeting with a BRAC delegation at the Secretariat, where SERP CEO Divya Devarajan

detailed TGILP's progress, the Minister called upon BRAC to support the government's efforts wholeheartedly. She emphasized that TGILP's goal is to identify the poorest families and create sustainable self-employment opportunities for them. The successful implementation of the program, she noted, is crucial for demonstrating a scalable and replicable model for other developing regions. Minister Seethakka provided specific guidance, urging the organization to design livelihood programs based on local resources and community needs. She strongly recommended establishing cottage industries in agency areas focused on producing oil and food products from the Mahua flower (Ippa puvvu), which is abundant there. She highlighted the health benefits of pure Mahua flower and its potential

to be converted into valuable, income-generating products, thus creating a stable market for tribal produce. She also pointed out that this value addition process would empower local women's groups to take ownership of the enterprise, ensuring the economic benefits remain within the community. BRAC representatives informed the Minister that TGILP is currently operational in eight Mandals across five districts, identifying 3,554 ultra-poor families to date. They explained that 108 experts have been appointed through selected women's federations to provide essential training to beneficiaries. The program aims to create long-term income streams to achieve financial self-reliance for these families. The Minister suggested expanding the program to more districts and mandals, prioritizing the uplift-

ment of Adivasi, Girijan, and PVTG (Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group) communities, who often face the greatest barriers to economic inclusion. The BRAC team responded positively, assuring that they would provide skill training and financial assistance to an additional 8,000 families to enhance their income sources, showcasing a strong commitment to scaling the initiative. The meeting included Gregory Chen, Managing Director of the Ultra Poor Graduation Initiative, and other key BRAC personnel. Minister Seethakka honored the BRAC representatives, commending their vital contribution to poverty alleviation in Telangana. She stressed that such partnerships between the government and international expertise are paramount to achieving comprehensive rural development goals.

Revanth Reddy Sanctions ₹101 Cr for Sammakka Saralamma Temple Upgrade

TPN Bureau,

Hyderabad, Oct 13: Following up on the initial incomplete report, further information indicates that the sanction of ₹101 crores by Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy was specifically designated for the development of the famous Sammakka Saralamma Temple in Medaram.3 This significant allocation was announced during the Chief Minister's recent visit to the temple site, aiming to enhance infrastructure and facilities for devotees. The ₹101 crore sanction is part of a larger government commitment that includes a previously approved amount of ₹150 crores, bringing the total development expenditure for the temple to ₹251 crores.4 The project is being monitored by multiple state functionaries, including Minister for Panchayat Raj and Rural Development Dhanasari Anasuya

Seethakka, who personally reviewed the ongoing work with officials. The officials stated that out of the sanctioned ₹101 crores, tenders worth ₹71 crores have already been called. The development plan is phased and long-term, focusing on making permanent improvements to the temple premises, constructing and upgrading approach roads, and significantly enhancing facilities for the large number of tribal and non-tribal devotees who visit the site, particularly during the biennial Jatara.6 The plan also specifically includes measures to prevent wastage of resources or damage due to floodwaters, demonstrating a commitment to creating resilient infrastructure. Minister Seethakka has been tasked with the direct supervision of the project, with a directive issued to the District Collector and Superintendent of Police to systematically complete the immediate works within 50 days.

CM Sanctions ₹60 Cr for Welfare Hostels, Pushes Tech Upgrades

CONTINUED FROM >>>P1 to monitor and guarantee improved services. The CM also directed the Chief Secretary and Special Chief Secretary for Welfare Departments to immediately formulate an action plan detailing the required budget for scholarships, salaries, diet charges, monthly maintenance, construction costs, and settlement of all pending arrears. He specifically

pushed for the immediate release of the state's matching grant to secure central sponsored scheme funds. To further improve service delivery, the CM called for the establishment of a 24-hour doctor hotline and the use of Ed-Tech solutions to aid students in preparing for competitive exams. He also advised utilizing social media to promote the quality services offered and counter delib-

erate misinformation. The entire overhaul is to be managed through newly developed, dedicated mobile applications for medical services, education technology, and inspection processes. The review included BC Welfare Minister Ponnamm Prabhakar, SC, ST, and Minority Welfare Minister Adluri Laxman Kumar, and several other top government advisors and secretaries.

Seethakka Meets BRAC on Telangana Poverty Alleviation Program

CONTINUED FROM >>>P1 the organization has successfully identified a total of 3,554 ultra-poor families who are the primary beneficiaries of the program. To facilitate on-the-ground execution and deliver personalized support, BRAC has recruited 108 experts through selected Mandal Mahila Samakhya (Mandal-level women's federations) to provide direct training and guidance to the beneficiaries. The BRAC team,

which included Gregory Chen (Managing Director, Ultra Poor Graduation Initiative), Shweta Banerjee (India Lead), Usha Rani (Program Lead), V. Ramesh (Senior Program Officer), and Abhishek (Program Associate), reaffirmed to the Minister that their work is focused on creating sustained, long-term income-generating pathways to ensure the financial self-sufficiency of the poor families. SERP CEO Divya De-

varajan was also present during the crucial review and consultation. This continuous engagement between the government and BRAC underscores the state's commitment to leveraging external expertise for effective poverty alleviation. The Minister emphasized the need for diligent execution to ensure the program's success translates into tangible upliftment for the most vulnerable populations.

TPN Bureau,

Hyderabad, Oct 13: State Minister for Sports and Youth Services, Vakiti Srihari, declared that Telangana is set to transform into a “Sports Hub.” He was speaking as the chief guest at the “Telangana Juventus Sports Diplomacy Initiative” program, a joint venture between the Telangana Sports Department and the renowned Italian football club, Juventus, held at the Gachibowli Stadium on Monday. The event was attended by high-ranking officials, including Government Sports Advisor A.P. Jitender Reddy, Special Chief Secretary Jayesh Ranjan, and SATG Chairman Siva Sena Reddy. The collaboration with Juventus is a strong statement about the state's intention to align its sports development with global standards. The Minister emphasized the crucial role of discipline for any athlete aspiring to reach the highest levels, stating that ultimate victory requires sincere effort from the player



alongside the support provided by governments, institutions, and coaches. Under the leadership of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, the Telangana government is giving high priority to sports.1 He noted Hyderabad's historical football legacy and confirmed that the government is undertaking various measures for the sport's revival, with this collaboration being one such initiative aimed at restoring the city's past glory in football. A.P. Jitender Reddy, the Government's Sports Advisor, mentioned that

the state is implementing numerous measures to ensure world-class training across all sports disciplines for athletes, a move designed to cultivate future champions.2 Jayesh Ranjan, Principal Secretary to the Government, highlighted the significance of the partnership, noting that the Juventus Football Club, one of the world's most prestigious and successful football organizations, brings decades of experience in player and coach development to this special collaboration, offering unparalleled expertise. A team of expert coaches from Juventus,

Italy, including Luca Corona (UEFA B), Francesco Beltramelli (UEFA A), and Sebastiano Disco (UEFA B), is scheduled to conduct intensive training camps in Hyderabad for young football players and local coaches from October 11 to 17, 2025. These camps will focus not only on advanced technical excellence but also on reinforcing key values such as teamwork, discipline, and global sportsmanship, which are vital for holistic player development. Sports Authority Chairman Siv Sena Reddy lauded the dedication of the Telangana Sports

Authority over the past year and a half, attributing the recent developmental surge to the leadership of the Chief Minister and Minister Srihari. At the conclusion of the event, the esteemed Italian coaches were formally felicitated by the Sports Department. The program was also attended by Sports Authority Vice-Chairman Dr. Soni Baladevi and the Consulate General of Italy (Bengaluru), underlining its diplomatic importance. This initiative is a clear step towards creating a robust sporting ecosystem that can compete on the international stage.

TPCC Chief: Congress To Approach SC On BC Reservations

TPN Bureau,

Hyderabad, Oct 13: Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) Chief Mahesh Kumar Goud spoke to the media in Delhi, announcing the state unit's intention to file a petition in

the Supreme Court concerning the Backward Classes (BC) reservations issue. Goud confirmed that he met with AICC President Mallikarjun Kharge to discuss the matter, along with a review of recent political developments in Telangana. Goud as-

sured the public that Kharge is in excellent health.

The main subject of their discussion was the situation surrounding BC reservations, specifically addressing the recent developments in the High Court. Goud informed Kharge about

the party's decision to appeal the High Court's ruling, a move seen as critical for protecting the rights of BC communities. He confirmed that the petition will be filed in the Supreme Court as soon as possible.

Goud revealed that

the decision was finalized during a recent Zoom meeting attended by the Chief Minister and other senior Congress leaders, demonstrating a unified approach on this key policy matter. To further strengthen the legal case and show-

case solidarity, he stated that prominent Congress party leaders will also be impleaded (formally included) in the petition filed by the State Government.

Addressing internal party dynamics, Goud firmly dismissed any

rumors of discord or disagreements among Congress leaders in the state. He clarified that any perceived issues were merely a result of a "small communication problem," and emphasized that the party functions as one family. He assured that such

minor issues would be resolved internally and amicably. The decision to pursue the matter in the Supreme Court highlights the party's firm commitment to ensuring the continuation and protection of BC reservation policies in Telangana.

Political Tensions Rise In Warangal As Surekha Misses Medaram Review

TPN Bureau,

Hyderabad, Oct 13: Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy, overseeing the erstwhile Warangal region, reportedly sidelined Endowments Minister Konda Surekha during a review of Medaram development works on Monday. The meeting, held alongside Panchayat Raj Minister Seethakka, did not include Surekha, whose department oversees the project.

Surekha's absence has ignited political speculation, with her supporters alleging that Srinivas Reddy and Seethakka deliberately excluded her to undermine her authority. The tension comes after Surekha is said to have lodged a complaint with Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, accusing Srinivas

Reddy of attempting to award a Rs 71-crore Medaram tender—under the Endowments Department—to a company under his control. Her husband, former MLC Konda Murali, reportedly raised the issue with AICC chief Mallikarjun Kharge and AICC Telangana in-charge Meenakshi Natarajan, citing Srinivas Reddy's alleged interference.

Speaking to the media at Medaram, Srinivas Reddy dismissed the allegations, stating there was no need to be "desperate" for the Rs 71-crore contract. He added that he did not believe Surekha had filed a complaint and suggested her absence could be due to other engagements. He assured that future development meetings would include Ministers Surekha, Seethakka, and local legislators.

Harish Rao Slams CM, Calls For BRS Win In Jubilee Hills

TPN Bureau,

Hyderabad, Oct 13: Former Minister and BRS leader Harish Rao addressed a meeting of key BRS workers at SPR Grand in Rehmat Nagar, Jubilee Hills, emphasizing the critical importance of the upcoming by-election. He stated that the entire state is closely watching Jubilee Hills, viewing it as a referendum on the current Congress government.

Harish Rao fiercely criticized the Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy's administration for failing to implement the six guarantees promised within 100 days, noting that over 700 days have now passed. He argued that a devastating defeat for the Congress in Jubilee Hills would serve as a crucial "lesson" for CM Revanth

Reddy. He warned that if the Congress wins, Revanth Reddy will feel emboldened to continue neglecting his promises, such as the six guarantees, and justify the demolition of the poor's homes under the pretense of "Hydra" (slum clearance/encroachment drive).

Harish Rao passionately urged the electorate to ensure a BRS victory for their own welfare, asserting that BRS candidate Maganti Sunitha's win is essential for securing jobs, pensions, scheme implementation, and halting the "Hydra" demolitions. He accused CM Revanth Reddy of transforming Telangana from the ideal state envisioned by KCR into one rampant with corruption within just two years. He cited alleged fixed commission rates for various

official tasks, including ₹75 per square foot for building permits, 12% commission for clearing finance bills, and demands for 40% of land to resolve property disputes.

The BRS leader contrasted KCR's model, which established 350 Basti Dawakhana and free diagnostic centers, with the current government, which he claimed has crippled these local clinics. He alleged that Basti Dawakhana staff have not been paid salaries for six months, medicines are unavailable, and the facilities are being deliberately starved of funds because they remind people of KCR. He also attacked the new government for reintroducing water bills for consumption under 20,000 liters, which were previously free under KTR's tenure as Municipal Minister.

Harish Rao framed the election not just as a fight for Sunitha, but as a victory for the people of Telangana, the victims of "Hydra," women waiting for the Mahalakshmi scheme, pensioners, and the unemployed. He challenged the selective application of the "Hydra" drive, questioning why the homes of Ministers and influential leaders were spared while the houses of the poor were targeted. He stressed that a vote for Congress means inviting the bulldozer to their homes. Concluding with a pledge of unwavering support, he assured party workers that he, along with KTR and Minister Talasani Srinivas Yadav, would be there to support them instantly in any crisis, urging them to secure a huge majority for Sunitha as a gift to KCR.

Telangana Rejected Bulldozer Rule Of BRS, Says Addanki Dayakar

TPN Bureau,

Hyderabad, Oct 13: Congress MLC Addanki Dayakar strongly rebutted criticisms from BRS leader Harish Rao, asserting that the people of Telangana rejected the BRS party's "destructive bulldozer rule" and decisively voted for the Congress. He challenged the BRS's belief in its electoral prospects by reminding Harish Rao of the recent Cantonment by-election, where the public clearly favored the Congress. Dayakar confidently predicted that the voters of Jubilee Hills will once again choose the Congress party in the upcoming by-election, mirroring the Cantonment result.

Dayakar mockingly dismissed the BRS's reliance on sentiment, suggesting that no amount of emotional appeal by Harish Rao and his rela-

tive would sway the voters. He stated that the people of Jubilee Hills are actively seeking the Congress party and have no desire to return to the BRS's "bulldozer and destructive governance."

The MLC went on to assert that the BRS is not merely in the opposition, but effectively "not even in existence" (asalu unique lo ne leru), implying the party has become politically irrelevant. He concluded by criticizing Harish Rao and the BRS for still clinging to the "illusion" of victory, despite the clear mandate given to the Congress by the people of Telangana who preferred an end to the previous regime's alleged destruction and centralized power. Dayakar's remarks reinforce the Congress party's confidence in its continued electoral momentum, particularly in urban constituencies like Jubilee Hills.



KTR Alleges Massive Vote Fraud in Jubilee Hills By-Election

TPN Bureau,

Hyderabad, Oct 13: BRS senior leader and former minister K. T. Rama Rao (KTR), after submitting a petition to the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) regarding fraudulent and duplicate votes in the Jubilee Hills constituency, spoke to the media, alleging a concerted effort

by the Congress party to win the by-election "by any means necessary." KTR accused the Congress of employing a strategy of Saama, Dama, Danda, Bheda (conciliation, gifts, punishment, and division) and misusing power extensively. He claimed that the entire state cabinet has camped in the Jubilee Hills constituency, engaging in gross

abuse of power. KTR highlighted the irony that while ruling party MLAs are writing letters to the World Bank and newspapers complaining about a lack of funds statewide, the government is falsely projecting massive funding for Jubilee Hills to deceive voters.

The core of his complaint to the CEO was the alleged attempt by

the Congress to enroll thousands of bogus votes. KTR countered AICC leader Rahul Gandhi's national discourse on "vote theft" by accusing the Congress of attempting to win locally with stolen votes. He claimed that the Congress registered at least 50 fake votes in each of the 400 polling booths, leading to an estimated 20,000 duplicate and bo-

gus votes in the constituency.

KTR provided evidence sourced from the Election Commission's own website, detailing instances where a single individual holds two or three voter ID cards, or where multiple votes are registered at the same address with minor spelling changes. He further exposed the scam by mentioning

hundreds of cases where 150 to 200 votes were registered at a single, small residence. Upon visiting these homes, BRS leaders found that existing homeowners denied having any connection to most of the listed voters, in one case stating that names were registered before anyone had even moved in as a tenant. He stressed that his

party's estimate of 20,000 is conservative and urged the Election Commission to fully investigate the final count.

KTR outlined three clear demands to the CEO: a full-scale investigation into the voter list irregularities, immediate action including transfer of lower-level officials suspected of colluding with the

Congress, and the immediate deletion of the 20,000 suspected bogus/double votes. He also noted that even after 12,000 votes were deleted for various reasons, an additional 7,000 new votes were added, suggesting a sustained effort to inflate the rolls. KTR vowed to expose the Congress party's "bogus vote scam" to the public.

Jubilee Hills By-Election: 10 Candidates File Nominations

TPN Bureau,

Hyderabad, Oct 13: The notification for the Jubilee Hills Assembly by-election was officially released on Monday, October 13, 2025, with the Returning Officer (RO), P. Sairam, commencing the acceptance of nominations. On the first day of the nomination period, ten candidates successfully filed their papers between 11:00 AM and 3:00 PM. This marked the initial phase of the electoral process for this crucial constituency.

Of the ten nominations received, two were filed by candidates representing registered political parties, while the remaining eight were independent candidates. Pusa Srinivas filed his nomination on behalf of the Telangana Punarnirmana Samithi, and Arvapalli Srinivasa Rao submitted his papers representing the Navataram Party. The eight independent candidates who filed their nominations were Siliveru Srikanth, Pesarakayala Parikshith Reddy, Chalika Chandra Shekhar, Sapawat Suman, Vemula Vikram Reddy, Ibrahim Khan,

Syed Mustafa Hussain, and Salman Khan. Prior to the official notification release, the District Election Officer, R.V. Karnan, visited the Returning Officer's office, which has been set up at the Shaikpet Tahsildar's office. Mr. Karnan conducted a preparedness review with the Returning Officer (RO) and Assistant Returning Officer (ARO). He issued instructions to ensure that all necessary arrangements were in place, strictly adhering to the Election Commission of India (ECI) guidelines, to guaran-

tee the smooth and transparent conduct of the nomination process. The district administration confirmed its readiness to handle the influx of nominations and manage the subsequent phases of the by-election. This proactive oversight by the District Election Officer underlines the commitment to maintaining fairness and efficiency throughout the election cycle. The nomination period is a critical stage that sets the field for the upcoming contest in the Jubilee Hills constituency.



97 Excise Sub-Inspectors Allocated to Warangal, Hyderabad

TPN Bureau,

Hyderabad, Oct 13: The Prohibition and Excise Department has completed the selection process for 97 candidates to be appointed as Sub-Inspectors (SIs) through the Group-II examination process. Following the selection, the Excise Department proceeded with the mandatory certificate verification process on Monday. The selected candidates have been allocated to two major districts: 63 individuals have been allocated to Warangal district, while 34 individuals have been allocated to Hyderabad district.

The certificate verification exercise for the Hyderabad batch was conducted at the conference hall of the Abkari Bhavan in Nampally. Hyderabad Deputy Commissioner Anil Kumar Reddy confirmed that out of the 34 candidates selected for Hyderabad, 33 attended the certificate verification process. The verification in Hyderabad was closely supervised by Assistant Excise Superintendents (AES) Smita Soujanya and Mohan Babu, with the participation of another AES, Srinivas Rao. Simultaneously, the certificate verification for the Warangal batch took place at the Wa-

rangal Deputy Commissioner's office. Warangal Deputy Commissioner G. Anjan Rao reported that all 63 candidates allocated to Warangal district attended the certificate verification without exception. This process marks the final administrative step before the formal induction of the new Sub-Inspectors into the Excise Department. The completion of the Group-II based selection and subsequent verification ensures the department receives qualified personnel, strengthening its enforcement capacity across both metropolitan and regional districts.



Doctor, Bike Taxi Driver Killed in Begumpet Crash

TPN Bureau,

Hyderabad, Oct 13: A tragic accident on Begumpet Road claimed the lives of Dr. Kasturi Jagadish Chandra of KIMS-Sunshine Hospital and bike taxi driver Mudhangal Naveen early Sunday morning. According to Panjagutta police, a 16-wheeler lorry, reportedly speeding, collided with the two-wheeler from behind. Naveen died on the spot, while Dr. Jagadish succumbed to his injuries at a

hospital. Police officials highlighted the importance of helmet use for pillion riders, noting that head injuries are a leading cause of fatalities in two-wheeler accidents. Regular road safety awareness programs and checks for drunk driving are conducted in Hyderabad to curb such tragedies. Authorities continue to urge both drivers and riders to exercise caution and follow traffic rules to prevent further accidents.

Hyderabad Police Seize ₹45 Lakh Worth of Illegal Firecrackers

TPN Bureau,

Hyderabad, Oct 13: The Commissioner's Task Force, North Zone team, Hyderabad, executed a successful raid on October 11, 2025, targeting the illegal storage of explosive firecrackers. Acting on a specific tip-off, the Task Force sleuths, in coordination with the Tirumalgherry Police, descended upon a godown located next to Durga Agency in Teachers Colony, Tirumalgherry, Secunderabad. The operation resulted in the apprehension of one individual, Abhimanyu Kumar Sharma (54, son of B.C. Sharma), who was running a firecrackers business. He was found to be illegally storing a huge quantity of highly volatile and explosive firecrackers within a congested residential area. The accused failed to produce any valid

documentation or licenses required for possessing such a massive stock. This deliberate act of storing explosives in a densely populated locality, without adhering to any requisite safety standards, constitutes a serious public safety hazard, posing an immediate and severe risk of fire accidents that could endanger human life and property in the entire neighborhood. The raid led to the seizure of various brands of firecrackers, amounting to an estimated value of ₹45,00,000 (forty-five lakh rupees). The seized material included a large inventory of different items, such as 20 boxes of Zameen Chakra, 32 boxes of Red Bijili, 10 boxes of Colour Flower Pots, 12 boxes of Standard Shots, 16 boxes of Laxmi Bomb, 20 boxes of Standard Laxmi Bomb, 26 boxes of Flower Pots, 16 boxes of Sparkels, 8 boxes

of 5 Colour Fancy, 20 boxes of 2 Sheets, 16 boxes of 30 Shots, 6 boxes of 15 Shots, 10 boxes of Bomb Rocket, 10 boxes of Ladi, 8 boxes of Gift Box, and 20 boxes of Pop Up, totaling 250 cartons of assorted firecrackers. A case has been registered against the accused under Cr. No. 258/2025, citing sections 288, 125, 223 BNS, and 9B(1)(b) of the Explosives Act, 1884. The successful operation was executed by a joint team, which included Inspector K. Chandra Shekar and Sub-Inspector P. Gnana-deep from the North Zone Task Force, and Inspector C. Naga Raju and Sub-Inspector D. Karunakar from Tirumalgherry Police Station, along with their respective staff. The Deputy Commissioner of Police, Task Force, Y.V.S. Sudheendra, issued the press note confirming the details of the raid.



DGP Shivdhar Reddy Warns Police Against Misconduct, Bribes

TPN Bureau,

Hyderabad, Oct 13: Telangana Director General of Police (DGP) Shivdhar Reddy issued a strong and clear warning to the state police personnel on Monday, emphasizing the need for professional conduct and integrity within the force. In an official letter addressed to the state police staff, the DGP reiterated several core principles of policing and

warned of severe consequences for any form of misconduct. The DGP categorically stated that Police Stations are not to be used for resolving civil disputes. He stressed that civil matters have established legal avenues, and civil courts are the appropriate forum for resolving them. DGP Reddy issued a firm warning: any officer or staff member found engaging in or facilitating "civil pan-chayats" (informal me-

diation/settlement of civil disputes) within the police station premises will face strict action. DGP Reddy linked the professional integrity of the force directly to its reputation, asserting that "uniform and corruption cannot coexist." He cautioned that the actions of even a single officer accepting a bribe can severely tarnish the entire department's image and public trust. Consequently, he announced a zero-toler-

ance policy, stating that strict disciplinary measures will be taken against anyone in the department caught taking bribes. In addition to enforcing integrity, the DGP also provided guidance on effective policing methods. He urged the staff to leverage modern technology alongside "basic policing" skills in handling criminal cases. He underscored that the police's primary duty remains the safety and se-

curity of the people. Finally, the DGP highlighted his commitment to the welfare of the police personnel, declaring it his "personal priority." He concluded by defining his overarching philosophy for the state police force: "Fair and Friendly, Professional Policing." This communication serves as a firm directive to all ranks to uphold the highest standards of professionalism and public service.



Telangana Student Smashes National Triathlon Record, Wins Gold

TPN Bureau,

HANUMAKONDA, OCT 13: Hanumakonda: Kanchu Lavlith, a tenth-grade student of Hanumakonda Boys BC Gurukula School, created history by breaking a national record and clinching gold at the National Junior Athletics Championship in Bhubaneswar. Competing in the grueling Triathlon category, Lavlith scored a remarkable 2,510 points, placing Telangana prominently on the national athletics map.

The young athlete's success comes under the BC Welfare Department's 'Lakshya' program, aimed at nurturing sporting talent from Gurukula schools. Minister for BC Welfare Ponnam Prabhakar, along with senior officials, personally lauded Lavlith, praising the government's efforts to promote holistic development among students from backward communities.

Officials highlighted that specialized coaching, nutritional support, and modern training facilities provided under the initiative have empowered students like Lavlith to excel at the highest levels. Lavlith's triumph is expected to inspire thousands of BC Gurukula students to pursue sports alongside academics, reflecting Telangana's growing focus on grassroots athletic excellence.

₹2.5 Crore Ganja Seized in Kothagudem; Two Arrested



TPN Bureau,

KOTHAGUDEM, OCT 13: Kothagudem: Police in Kothagudem seized 499 kg of ganja worth ₹2.5 crore and arrested two smugglers from Maharashtra and Karnataka on Monday. The contraband, sourced from Nellipaka in Andhra Pradesh, was being transported to Jaipur in Rajasthan.

The accused, Jagadish Dayaram Patil of Jalgaon, Maharashtra, and Sanju Kumar of Bidar, Karnataka, were caught during vehicle checks at Vepalagadda in Sujatha Nagar mandal. Two others linked to the case—the buyer Amit Rohidas Patil of Maharashtra and the seller Hari of Odisha—are still absconding.

The authorities also seized the truck and two mobile phones involved in the smuggling. Superintendent of Police B. Rohith Raju praised the teams led by CCS CI Ramakanth, SIs Praveen, Rama Rao, and Rama Devi for their swift action.

This follows another major seizure in Aswaraopet, where police recovered 222 kg of ganja worth ₹1.10 crore from a car coming from Jangareddygudem, Andhra Pradesh, and arrested two suspects.

Heavy Rains Damage Maize, Paddy Stocks in Warangal and Khammam

TPN Bureau,

WARANGAL, OCT 13: Warangal: Heavy rains over the past 24 hours have caused significant damage to maize and paddy stocks in Warangal and Khammam districts. At the Enumamula Agricultural Market in Warangal, maize left out for drying was soaked, while in Jangaon, 25-30 truckloads of paddy were damaged due to untimely rainfall.

Farmers are facing losses as traders reduce prices, offering maize at Rs 1,900-2,000 per quintal against the MSP of Rs 2,400. With no government procurement centres in place, farmers are left dependent on private traders.

Moderate to heavy rains were also recorded in several mandals, prompting warnings of waterlogging in low-lying areas. In Kothagudem, overflowing streams in Manugur, Aswapuram, and Gundala disrupted transportation, with local officials advising the public to remain cautious.

Authorities and the Meteorological Department have urged farmers to take preventive measures to protect crops amid the ongoing rainfall.



officials advising the public to remain cautious. Authorities and the Meteorological Department have urged farmers to take preventive measures to protect crops amid the ongoing rainfall.

Gurukul Teacher Accused of Sexual Harassment Dies by Suicide in Khammam



TPN Bureau,

KHAMMAM, OCT 13: A Gurukul teacher at the Telangana Minority Residential School in Ammapalem, Konijerla mandal, died by suicide on Monday after being accused of sexually harassing a Class 9 student.

Prabhakar Rao had been booked under the POCSO Act and was removed from his position following a complaint lodged by the boy's parents with the school principal and local police. The student revealed the abuse after refusing to return to the school during the Dasara holidays.

The teacher reportedly attempted suicide a few days earlier by consuming pesticide, feeling ashamed after the allegations became public. He passed away while undergoing treatment at a hospital in Hyderabad.

Sri Raja Rajeshwara Swamy Temple to Offer LED Screen Darshan During Development Works



The management of the Sri Raja Rajeshwara Swamy Temple has decided to facilitate darshan of the presiding deity through an LED screen and temporary arrangements until the completion of the temple's ongoing developmental works. The decision comes in response to objections and requests from devotees who were concerned about restricted access to the deity during the renovation phase.

The ancient temple, which attracts thousands of devotees from across Telangana and neighboring states, is currently undergoing major reconstruction and developmental works aimed at enhancing facilities and preserving its spiritual and architectural heritage. In view of these works, the temple authorities were compelled to limit physical access to the sanctum sanctorum. However, taking into consideration the sentiments of devotees, the management has made arrangements for virtual darshan through an LED display to ensure that worship continues uninterrupted.

A statement issued by the Endowments Department on Monday said that devotees will be able to view the deity through high-resolution LED screens installed within the temple premises. The department emphasized that all necessary measures are being taken to ensure the sanctity of the rituals and the convenience of devotees during this interim period.

In addition, the department has also decided to continue Arjitha Sevas at the temple. Devotees will be able to perform these special sevas as per the existing schedule, and all traditional pujas and rituals will continue without interruption.

Temporary facilities, including queue lines, shelter areas, and seating arrangements, will be set up to accommodate the steady inflow of visitors.

Officials said these decisions were taken after consulting Archakas, Veda Pandits, and local representatives to strike a balance between ongoing construction needs and the spiritual aspirations of devotees. "Our objective is to ensure that devotees remain connected to the divine experience even while developmental works are in progress," the Endowments Department said in its press release.

Furthermore, keeping in view the upcoming Samakka Saralamma Jathara at Medaram in January 2026, the temple management has planned special arrangements for visiting devotees. Pilgrims attending the Medaram Jathara will be able to have darshan of Sri Raja Rajeshwara Swamy either before or after participating in the tribal fair. The department aims to coordinate with local authorities to ensure smooth travel and accommodation facilities for pilgrims visiting both religious events.

The Endowments Department has assured that all developmental works at the Sri Raja Rajeshwara Swamy Temple are being carried out in a phased and transparent manner, adhering to traditional guidelines and expert advice. The department also appealed to devotees to cooperate with the temporary arrangements and extend their support until the construction is fully completed.

With these interim measures in place, the temple authorities hope to preserve the sanctity of worship and ensure a seamless spiritual experience for devotees until the main temple construction and developmental works reach completion.

NASA Shutdown: Warning Signs and Window of Opportunity for India

NASA—the world’s most prominent space agency—was forced to suspend many operations after the US Congress failed to pass a federal budget. This political deadlock has sent shockwaves through the global scientific community, as more than 15,000 NASA employees were furloughed, labs were shut, and crucial missions—including the Artemis Moon programme and Mars Sample Return—have been paused.

While essential operations like maintaining the International Space Station (ISS) and monitoring key satellites continue, much of NASA’s scientific engine is now idle. For the

world, and especially India, this is more than an American budget crisis—it’s a stark reminder of how globally reliant space science is on one agency’s funding cycles.

NASA’s reach is global. Its Earth-monitoring satellites feed critical data into weather models, disaster forecasting, and climate research used across Asia and Africa. The Indian Meteorological Department depends on NASA data to model monsoons—a disruption could impact millions of farmers. Open access to NASA’s data also supports Indian PhD students, researchers, and agencies like ISRO in climate and space research.

India’s joint NASA-ISRO mission, NISAR, aimed at studying Earth’s ecosystems and tectonic activity, could face delays due to the shutdown. The episode has highlighted how vulnerable international collaborations can be to domestic politics—even in a developed nation.

However, the shutdown is not just a warning—it’s an opportunity for India. As ISRO establishes itself through missions like Chandrayaan-3 and Aditya-L1, it has proven capable of delivering complex missions on limited budgets. India can now present itself as a reliable, stable space partner to countries and companies seeking alternatives to NASA’s unpredictability.

There are key takeaways for India. First, ISRO must be insulated from political turbulence with multi-year funding commitments. Second, India should enhance its own Earth-observation satellite capabilities to reduce dependence on foreign data. Lastly, it should diversify international partnerships—with Europe, Japan, and private American firms like SpaceX.

The symbolism of NASA’s silence is powerful. For decades, it has embodied the spirit of human exploration. Its sudden halt reflects how even the most advanced scientific institutions are not immune to politics. China, advancing

rapidly with its Tiangong space station and lunar ambitions, may capitalise on this moment for strategic messaging.

When funding resumes, NASA will recover, but the damage to timelines, costs, and credibility may linger. For India, the lesson is clear: space science needs political insulation, reliable funding, and strategic independence.

In a world shaken by geopolitical shifts, India has a rare chance to position ISRO as a dependable global space leader. As the US falters—however briefly—New Delhi can rise, not in competition, but as a collaborative force in the evolving space economy.



How the U.S. Gifted China Its Rare-Earth Monopoly

In a twist of history and policy missteps, China’s current dominance over the global rare-earth market—a strategic resource crucial for electric vehicles, missiles, and microchips—was inadvertently enabled by the United States, with India playing a surprising supporting role.

The story begins in Inner Mongolia, where a diorama at the local museum depicts nomadic families sacrificing their pastoral life for China’s industrial rise. In the 1950s, China, concerned over Soviet reluctance to share nuclear technology, began developing its own rare-earth capabilities under chemist Xu Guangxian. At the same time, the U.S. explored rare earths for advanced military and aerospace

technologies.

Facing famine post-independence, India sought food aid from the U.S., which proposed repayment via strategic minerals, including monazite—critical to America’s nuclear ambitions. Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru rejected this conditional deal to safeguard Indian sovereignty, narrowing U.S. access to key minerals.

The discovery of bastnaesite in California’s Clark Mountain Range in 1949 offered the U.S. an alternative. The Mountain Pass mine soon met over 70% of global demand. However, growing environmental concerns in the 1980s, championed by President Nixon’s brother Edward, led to rare-earth processing being outsourced to

China. It appeared mutually beneficial—China gained industrial might, and the U.S. avoided regulatory hurdles.

Yet, the environmental cost in China was catastrophic. The Baogang tailings lake in Inner Mongolia now holds 200 million litres of toxic waste. Locals suffer from cancers, birth defects, and ruined farmland—sacrifices invisible in global trade talks.

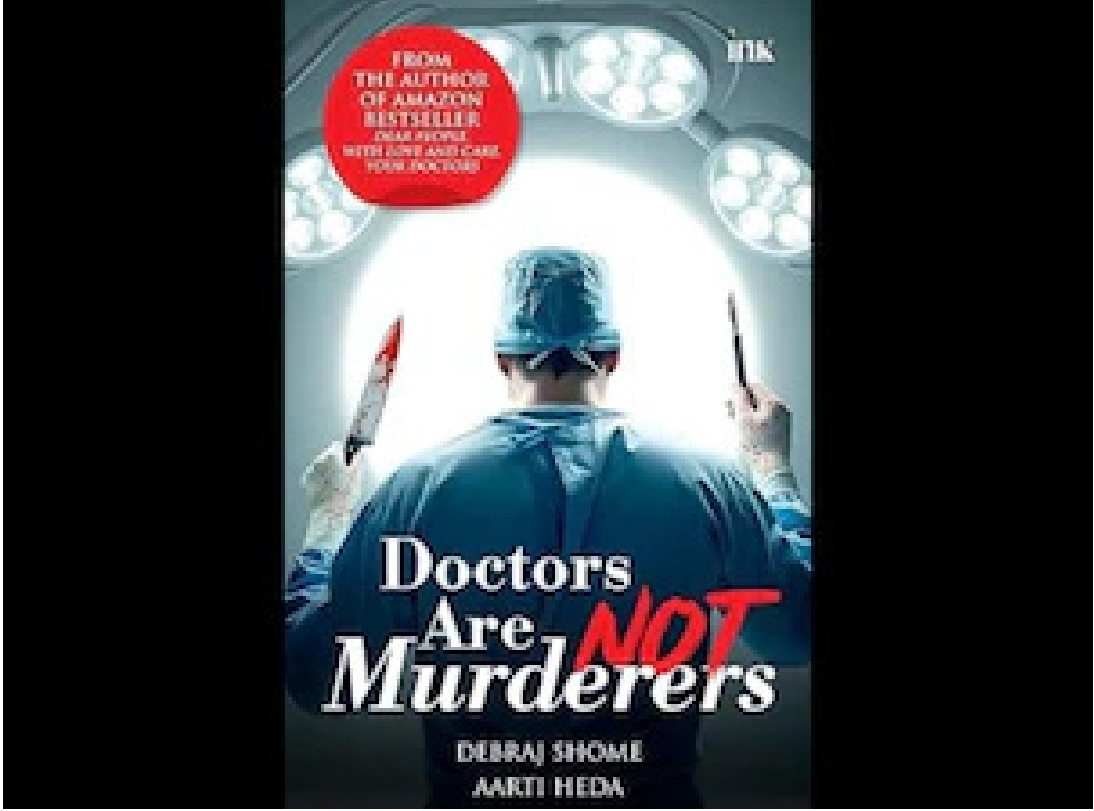
Today, countries like India, Australia, and Brazil are slowly diversifying the rare-earth supply chain. The crisis serves as a cautionary tale: how geopolitical naivety and corporate short-sightedness created a global dependency—with severe human and environmental consequences.

India’s Amended Abortion Law: Progress, But Still Far from Enough

India’s 2021 amendment to the Medical Termination of Pregnancy (MTP) Act marked a significant step forward in reproductive rights. It extended the legal abortion limit from 20 to 24 weeks for select categories—survivors of rape, incest, minors, and in cases of foetal anomalies—with approval from two doctors or a medical board. Unmarried women were also finally included under the clause for contraceptive failure.

However, as Dr. Nikhil Datar writes in *Doctors Are Not Murderers*, the amendment still falls short of addressing deeper systemic issues. Many life-altering foetal abnormalities are only detected during the second trimester—often after the 20-week mark. Women like Asha, who discover conditions like hydrocephalus late due to delayed access to sonography, are still forced to carry pregnancies to term, even when the prognosis is bleak.

Dr. Datar recounts harrowing cases where



women had to choose between illegal abortions or raising children with severe disabilities, pushing families into emotional and financial distress. Others, like Sheetal, opted for premature termination before test results confirmed abnormalities, fearing they’d miss the legal window—only to later

discover the foetus was healthy.

Despite medical advancements making second-trimester abortions safer, the law remains overly restrictive. It also ignores socio-economic disparities—millions of rural women lack timely access to healthcare, making early diagnosis nearly

impossible.

Globally, abortion laws remain contentious. Even in developed nations like Finland and the U.S., access is often conditional, politicised, or hindered by stigma. In several countries, abortion is still banned regardless of circumstance.

While India’s

amended MTP Act is a step in the right direction, it doesn’t go far enough in empowering women with full bodily autonomy. True progress will require trusting women with the final say over their pregnancies—beyond arbitrary deadlines and restrictive conditions.

Playing Pakistan: Cricket Is Not a Battleground for Justice



As debates rage over whether India should face Pakistan in cricket post-Operation Sindoor, the real issue lies deeper than sports or diplomacy—it’s about national hypocrisy and emotional grandstanding. Critics argue that playing Pakistan is morally wrong while Indian soldiers’ families grieve. But does boycotting matches deliver justice that our armed forces haven’t already pursued?

The logic is flawed. India’s military response to terrorism—be it airstrikes or counter-terror operations—has been robust and visible. Indian cricket cannot and should not be positioned as a replacement for national security policy. Refusing to play Pakistan in multilateral tournaments doesn’t punish terrorism; it merely gifts walkover victories to the opponent.

Cricket isn’t the only sport where India and Pakistan face off. Recently, Olympic champions Neeraj Chopra and Pakistan’s Arshad Nadeem competed at the World Athletics Championship without public outrage. This shows that the outrage

over cricket is not moral but performative—driven by engagement farming and primetime hysteria.

Data, too, tells a compelling story. Over the past 20 years, India has overwhelmingly dominated Pakistan in cricket—an 11-3 T20 record and 8-1 in ODIs over the past decade. Conceding matches now reverses this hard-earned dominance and sends a message of strategic weakness.

Unlike the past, where boycotts were multilateral—such as against apartheid South Africa or during the Cold War—unilateral action now would harm India’s global sporting reputation. With India leading global cricket administration, including the ICC and Asian Cricket Council, realpolitik demands dialogue, not disengagement.

India’s strength lies in maturity, not reaction. Playing Pakistan in sport is not betrayal—it is a demonstration that a confident, strong nation can separate battlefield from playing field, and anger from action. Cricket is not a warrior in this fight—and nor should it be.

Bihar Assembly polls



- **BJP, JD(U) to Contest 101 Seats Each**
- **Chirag Paswan's LJP Bags 29 Seats**

TPN Bureau | Mumbai ₹ After weeks of intense negotiations, the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) has officially sealed its seat-sharing arrangement for the upcoming Bihar Assembly elections. The final agreement was announced by Union Minister and BJP's Bihar in-charge Dharmendra Pradhan via a post on X (formerly Twitter) on Saturday. Under the deal, the BJP and Nitish Ku-

mar's Janata Dal United (JDU) will contest 101 seats each out of the total 243 assembly seats in the state. This reflects a slight reduction from the 2020 elections, where the BJP contested 110 and the JDU 115. Smaller allies Upendra Kushwaha's Rashtriya Lok Morcha and Jitan Ram Manjhi's Hindustan Awam Morcha (HAM) have been allocated six seats each. The highlight of the agreement, however, is the final allocation of 29 seats to Chirag Paswan's Lok Janshakti Party (Ram Vilas), whose demands had caused prolonged delays. Initially pushing for 40-45 seats, the LJP had even hinted at exploring an alliance with Prashant Kishor's Jan Suraj Party if demands were not met. Despite the BJP initially offering just 25

seats, persistent negotiations with Pradhan led to a compromise, with all major partners making room for the LJP. The agreement reportedly involved sacrifices from both the BJP and JDU's share to accommodate Paswan's demands. The LJP's claim was backed by its 100% strike rate in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, winning all five constituencies it contested, and its performance in the 2020 assembly elections. Chirag Paswan also pushed for at least two assembly seats in each of his party's Lok Sabha strongholds, along with seats for senior party leaders. The NDA hopes the unified front will strengthen its chances against the Mahagathbandhan in the upcoming polls.

Sonia Gandhi Unveils Statue of Virbhadra Singh in Shimla

TPN Correspondent | Delhi Senior Congress leader Sonia Gandhi on Monday unveiled a statue of the late six-time Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Virbhadra Singh at Daulat Singh Park, located on the historic Ridge Ground in Shimla. The event marked a significant tribute to the towering political figure who left a lasting legacy in the state. Ms. Gandhi, who is also the Congress Parliamentary Party (CPP) chairperson, was accompanied by her daughter, Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, as they paid floral tributes to Virbhadra Singh. The ceremony attracted several local dignitaries, party members, and supporters who gathered to honor the veteran leader's contributions. Virbhadra Singh, known for his long and influential political career, served as Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh six times and was a prominent figure in Indian politics for over five decades. His leadership was widely respected for his focus on the development of Himachal Pradesh and his ability to connect with the grassroots. Sonia Gandhi's presence at the event underscored the importance of Virbhadra Singh's legacy within the Congress party and the region. Her unveiling of the statue was seen as a gesture to keep alive the memory and ideals of the late leader. Priyanka Gandhi Vadra also expressed her admiration for Virbhadra Singh's dedi-



cation and commitment to public service, highlighting his role in shaping the political landscape of Himachal Pradesh. The installation of the statue at the Ridge Ground, a historic and symbolic location in Shimla, reflects the deep respect and affection that people of the state hold for Virbhadra Singh. The tribute serves as a reminder of his enduring impact on Himachal Pradesh and the Congress party. The event concluded with calls for unity and progress, inspired by the late leader's vision for the state and the nation.

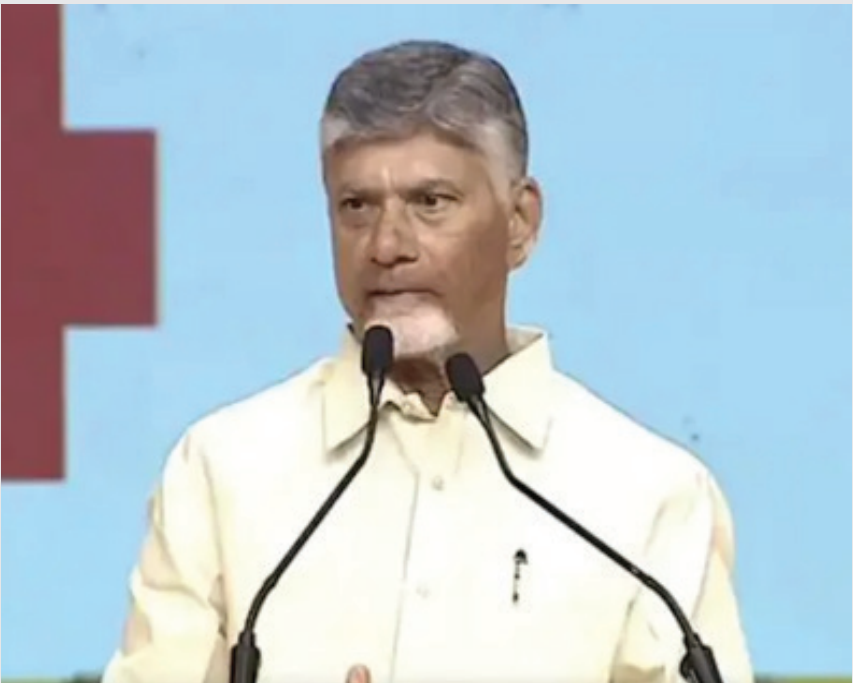
Afghan Minister Defends Absence of Women Journalists at Presser as 'Technical Issue'

TPN Correspondent | Delhi Senior Congress leader Lalu Prasad Yadav and key members of his family, including his son and Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) leader Tejashwi Yadav and wife, former Chief Minister Rabri Devi, were formally charged Monday in the high-profile IRCTC scam case. The timing—less than 30 days before the Bihar Assembly elections—poses a major challenge for the RJD, the main rival to Chief Minister Nitish Kumar and his Janata Dal (United). Lalu Yadav and his family pleaded not guilty when the court asked if they admitted the charges of cheating and criminal conspiracy. The case stems from allegations that during Lalu's tenure as Railway Minister (2004-2009) in the Congress-led UPA government, he influenced tenders for maintenance contracts of IRCTC hotels in Ranchi and Puri. It is alleged that in return, a shell company acquired prime land in Patna, which was undervalued and registered in the names of Tejashwi Yadav and Rabri Devi. The contracts were awarded to Sujata Hotel, owned by Vijay and Vinay Kochar, who are also named in the case. The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) initiated its probe in 2006 and filed charges against Lalu Yadav in July 2017. Multiple raids were conducted at properties linked to the Yadav family across Patna, Delhi,



Ranchi, and Gurugram. In its verdict, the court observed that "probable fraud must be tried as cheating," and found sufficient evidence to proceed. The accused face charges under Sections 420 (cheating) and 120B (criminal conspiracy) of the Indian Penal Code, punishable by up to life imprisonment and fines. The trial will now move forward with examination of evidence and witness testimonies. This latest legal setback comes amid RJD's intense election battle in Bihar, potentially impacting the party's campaign momentum.

Chandrababu Naidu To Meet PM Modi, Sign \$10 Billion Google Deal In Delhi



TPN Correspondent | Delhi Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu embarked on a high-stakes two-day visit to the national capital, combining vital political consultations with Prime Minister Narendra Modi and securing one of India's largest Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) deals—a \$10 billion Google Data Center project in Visakhapatnam. Naidu's visit, viewed as a milestone in the renewed alliance between the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) and the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) under the National Democratic Alliance (NDA), signals a strengthened partnership after a six-year estrangement over Andhra Pradesh's Special Category Status demands. The Chief Minister is scheduled to meet PM Modi today at 4:45 PM, where discussions will focus on state-centre coordination, crucial for accelerating development initiatives and ensuring smooth execution of the Google project. The meeting also includes formal invitations to the Prime Minister for the state's upcoming 'Super GST – Super Savings' program in Kurnool and the CII Partnership Summit in Vi-

sakhapatnam (November 14-15). The highlight of the trip is the signing ceremony tomorrow at 10:00 AM at Hotel Taj Mansingh, where the Andhra Pradesh government will officially ink the agreement with Google to develop a 1 Gigawatt hyperscale data center campus in Vizag. Senior Union ministers, including Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and Information and Broadcasting Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, will attend, underscoring the project's strategic importance. Described as the highest-ever FDI in India's digital infrastructure, the \$10 billion investment is expected to generate around 1,88,220 jobs annually and position Visakhapatnam as 'AI City Vizag', India's first AI hub. The project aligns with India's 'Digital India' and 'IndiaAI Mission' goals, directly challenging established tech hubs like Hyderabad and Bengaluru. AP IT Minister Nara Lokesh called the project "transformative" for the state's future, highlighting Naidu's successful lobbying for tax incentives and policy reforms under the National Data Centre Policy that helped attract this landmark investment.

"Incident Shook The Nation": SC Orders CBI Probe In Karur Stampede



TPN Correspondent | Delhi The Supreme Court on Monday directed a Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) inquiry into the deadly stampede at actor-turned-politician Vijay's rally in Karur, Tamil Nadu, last month. The court also constituted a three-member monitoring committee headed by retired Supreme Court judge Ajay Rastogi, including two IPS officers not native to Tamil Nadu, to oversee the probe. The bench of Justices JK Maheshwari and NV Anjaria expressed concern over why a single judge of the Madras High Court had earlier denied a CBI investigation but still took cognizance of the case and passed an order describing the stampede as an incident that "shook the conscience of the nation." The tragedy on September 27 claimed 41 lives and injured at least 60 people. Nearly 30,000 people gathered at a venue designed for just 10,000 attendees for Vijay's rally. Officials cited severe violations of security protocols, including inadequate food and drinking water arrangements, as fac-

tors contributing to the disaster. Vijay, who was scheduled to arrive at noon, appeared only at 7 PM, causing the crowd to swell dangerously. His arrival triggered another surge as people pushed and jostled to catch a glimpse of the TVK chief. Many spectators climbed trees, roofs, and power lines, forcing authorities to cut electricity to prevent electrocution. The crowd's restlessness escalated with slippers thrown at the campaign bus, fainting incidents, and a subsequent police lathi charge to disperse the masses. Following the incident, Vijay announced compensation of Rs 20 lakh for families of the deceased and Rs 2 lakh for the injured. He suspended his statewide tour and spoke to victims' families via video call, promising to visit Karur soon. Meanwhile, TVK Karur West District Secretary Mathiyazhagan was arrested for negligence, and cases are filed against TVK's General Secretary Bussy Anand and Joint General Secretary Nirmal Sekar, who are currently absconding.

Netanyahu Skips Gaza Peace Summit Amid Holiday; Hostages Return to Israel



TPN Correspondent | Sidoarjo

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu announced on Monday that he would not attend the Gaza Peace Summit in Egypt's Sharm El-Sheikh, citing "time constraints" ahead of the Shemini Atzeret-Simchat Torah holiday starting that evening. Netanyahu had initially accepted Egyptian President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi's invitation to the summit, which is being hosted alongside US President Donald Trump and other global leaders. However, his office confirmed that he would be unable to travel due to the Jewish holiday, a period when Israeli leaders traditionally refrain from official trips unless in exceptional circumstances. The Prime Minister thanked Trump for the invitation and praised his efforts to expand peace through strength. Israel also endorsed Trump for the Nobel Peace Prize next year, calling him "the most deserving" candidate. Netanyahu was present with Trump in the

Knesset Chamber when the decision was announced. Notably, Netanyahu did not mention Sisi's invitation personally extended by phone. Meanwhile, Trump's visit to Israel coincided with the release of 20 hostages freed by Hamas after intense negotiations. The Israel Defence Forces (IDF) confirmed that 13 of the hostages were being escorted from southern Gaza to Israel for medical assessments by IDF and Israel Security Agency personnel. The released hostages include Elkana Bohbot, Avinatan Or, Yosef-Haim Ohana, and others. Earlier, seven hostages had safely reached Israeli forces near the Gaza border for physical and mental checkups. "The commanders and soldiers of the IDF salute and embrace the returning hostages as they make their way home to the State of Israel," the IDF stated. Trump's visit underscored international efforts to stabilize the region amid ongoing tensions.

Jaishankar, Canadian FM Hold Talks to Rebuild Bilateral Ties



TPN Correspondent | Delhi

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar held "constructive discussions" with Canadian Foreign Minister Anita Anand in New Delhi on Monday, marking a key step toward restoring strained ties between India and Canada. The high-level meeting is Anand's first official visit to India since assuming office. Jaishankar welcomed Anand and said the talks focused on reviving key mechanisms to move the partnership forward. In a post on social media platform X, he noted, "Had constructive discussions to restore and reinvigorate the mechanisms necessary to advance our partnership. Also exchanged views on global developments and our responses to shared challenges." The two sides also agreed on an "ambitious cooperation roadmap," aimed at rebuilding cooperation that meets the expectations of both governments and benefits the citizens of both countries. The visit comes amid

a cautious thaw in relations, which had faced turbulence in recent months due to diplomatic tensions. Both leaders emphasized the importance of dialogue and mutual respect as they aim to strengthen political, economic, and cultural ties. Anand's visit is seen as part of Canada's broader effort to reset relations with India, a key partner in the Indo-Pacific. While specifics of the cooperation roadmap were not publicly detailed, officials indicated that trade, security, education, and technology collaboration would feature prominently in future engagements. India and Canada have traditionally enjoyed strong people-to-people ties, with a large Indian diaspora playing a vital role in Canadian society. However, recent issues had caused friction, making this dialogue crucial for realignment. Anand's visit signals renewed diplomatic intent from both sides to move past challenges and focus on shared global concerns and strategic cooperation.

Threatened India, Pakistan with 200% tariffs, which ended conflict, claims Trump

TPN Bureau | Washington

US President Donald Trump has claimed that he used tariffs as a diplomatic tool to prevent international conflicts, including a potential war between India and Pakistan. Speaking to reporters during a press gaggle aboard Air Force One, Trump said he threatened to impose steep tariffs to push both countries toward de-escalation. "I settled a few of the wars just based on tariffs," Trump remarked. "For example, between India and Pakistan, I said, if you guys want to fight a war and you have nuclear weapons, I'm going to put big tariffs on you both — 100 per cent, 150 per cent, and even 200 per cent." The President claimed that this strategy worked instantly. "I had that thing settled in 24 hours. If I didn't have tariffs, you could have never settled that war," he added, without specifying the timeline of the intervention or the exact nature of the conflict he referred to. Trump also repeated similar assertions in an interview with Fox News on October 9, stating that he "brought peace between India and Pakistan" through tariff threats, and has used the same approach to resolve several other global issues. "Having the ability to use tariffs has brought peace to the world... I made seven peace deals," he said. This isn't the first time Trump has claimed to have played a key role in defusing tensions between the South Asian neighbours. He previously offered to mediate during heightened border tensions, though both India and Pakistan have historically maintained that bilateral issues must be resolved directly. There has been no official response from India or Pakistan regarding Trump's latest remarks. However, his comments are likely to stir debate over the effectiveness and appropriateness of using economic threats in sensitive geopolitical conflicts.



Pakistan Burns Over Gaza As Palestinians Rejoice After Ceasefire



TPN Correspondent | Gaza

At least one police officer and multiple protesters were killed on Monday during violent clashes in Lahore, Pakistan, as supporters of the Tehreek-e-Labbaik Pakistan (TLP) clashed with security forces during an anti-Israel march. The unrest brought the city to a standstill and raised fresh concerns about political instability. According to Punjab Police Chief Usman Anwar, protesters opened fire on police, killing one officer and injuring several others. The TLP claimed in a statement that "many" of its supporters were also killed or wounded in the violence, although official numbers were not confirmed. Among the injured is TLP chief Saad Rizvi, who reportedly sustained multiple bullet wounds and is said to be in critical condition. A video released before he was shot showed Rizvi calling for calm and urging security forces to stop firing. Gunfire can be heard in the background of the video, which has since gone viral on social media. The clashes began when demonstrators attempted to dismantle shipping containers placed by police to block the march route. Protesters set vehicles ablaze, including a truck carrying TLP workers leading the so-called "long march", which started in eastern Pakistan on Friday and is aimed at reaching the U.S. Embassy in Islamabad for a pro-Palestinian rally. Authorities had arrested over 100 protesters during earlier demonstrations on Saturday. Police launched operations to prevent further escalation as the crowd advanced toward the capital. The government has faced criticism for its handling of the protests. Deputy Interior Minister Talal Chaudhry questioned the timing and motive of the march, especially as reports suggest the Gaza conflict has cooled. TLP rose to prominence in 2018 by supporting Pakistan's blasphemy laws and has a history of staging disruptive and sometimes violent protests.

Macron Refuses to Resign Amid No-Confidence Threats to New Government

TPN Correspondent | France

French President Emmanuel Macron on Monday rejected calls to resign amid mounting political turmoil, as his newly appointed government faces two no-confidence motions that could topple it by the end of the week. France is grappling with its worst political crisis in decades, marked by successive minority governments struggling to pass deficit-cutting budgets through a deeply divided legislature. Since 2023, Macron has cycled through five Prime Ministers, reflecting growing instability. Speaking after arriving in Egypt for the Gaza Peace Summit, Macron blamed his political rivals for destabilizing France and affirmed he will complete his second and final term ending in 2027. "I ensure continuity and stability, and I will continue to do so," he said, urging the public to remember the president's mandate "to serve." Last Friday, Macron reappointed Sebastian Lecornu as Prime Minister after his recent resignation. Lecornu's new cabinet was announced Sunday, largely retaining top ministers despite promises of renewal and diversity. On Monday, both the far-left France Unbowed (LFI) and far-right National Rally (RN) parties filed no-confidence motions against Lecornu's government.



Lecornu faces a crucial no-confidence vote expected on Thursday. His survival hinges on support from the Socialists, who are demanding the repeal of Macron's pension reforms and introduction of a billionaires' tax — policies opposed by the right. Socialist

lawmaker Philippe Brun said there would be no censure if Lecornu abandons Article 49.3, a constitutional provision allowing legislation to pass without a parliamentary vote. The new cabinet must present a budget by Wednesday to address France's

eurozone-leading deficit. Macron blamed opposition parties for the ongoing crisis, saying they are "solely responsible for this mess." The political uncertainty continues to cast a shadow over Macron's presidency and France's economic future.

Retail Inflation Drops Sharply to 1.54% in September Amid Falling Food Prices



India's retail inflation eased significantly to 1.54% in September 2025, down from 2.07% in August, driven by a sharp fall in prices of essential food items, particularly vegetables and pulses, according to data released by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation on Monday.

This marks a substantial drop from 5.49% in September 2024, highlighting a strong cooling trend in consumer price pressures over the past year.

The inflation data, based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI), showed that food inflation played a major role in the moderation, with several key components like tomatoes, onions, and pulses registering a notable price correction. Analysts suggest a bumper harvest and improved supply chains post-monsoon contributed to the dip.

"The softening of food prices has significantly eased the pressure on household budgets and will likely allow the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) more policy flexibility," said an economist from a leading private bank.

Despite global uncertainties, such as renewed U.S.-China trade tensions, India's domestic inflation trajectory appears under control for now. This has also opened up room for potential rate cuts in the coming quarters if growth support is needed.

Core inflation, which excludes food and fuel, also remained benign, suggesting stable demand-side pressures.

The sharp decline in retail inflation is also likely to support consumer sentiment ahead of the festive season, boosting retail demand and easing pressure on businesses.

However, experts caution that inflation could tick up again in coming months if global crude oil prices rise or supply-side shocks re-emerge.

The RBI's inflation target is 4% with a 2% margin on either side. With inflation now well below the lower bound, the central bank may review its monetary policy stance in upcoming meeting.

Gold Hits Record 1.23 Lakh/10g on US-China Tensions

Gold prices surged to an all-time high in India on Monday, hitting 1,23,977 per 10 grams in domestic futures trade as escalating US-China tensions and global economic uncertainty triggered a rush towards safe-haven assets.

On the Multi Commodity Exchange (MCX), gold futures for December delivery soared by 2,613, or 2.15%, reaching a new lifetime high. The February 2026 contract also moved close to its record, trading at 1,24,999 per 10 grams, just below its previous peak of 1,25,025 touched last Thursday.

Last week, gold had rallied by 3,251, or 2.75%, before seeing some profit-booking ahead of the weekend.

Silver followed suit, with December contracts jumping 5,856 or 4% to 1,52,322 per kilogram on MCX, nearing its record of 1,53,388. The March 2026 silver contract also rose by 4,992 to 1,52,011.

Analysts attribute the rally to renewed geopolitical tensions and economic jitters. "Safe-



haven demand has soared as the US-China trade spat escalates, the US government shutdown drags on, and fears over a global slowdown grow," said Jigar Trivedi, Senior Research Analyst at Reliance Securities.

Internationally, gold futures surged over 2% to touch a lifetime high of \$4,096.06 per ounce, while silver climbed to \$49.44 per ounce on COMEX.

Domestically, expectations of increased festive demand ahead of Diwali are also likely to support prices. "Gold demand typically rises during the festive season, which could add more upside pressure," said Aksha Kamboj, VP of the India Bullion and Jewellers Association.

Investors now await the US CPI inflation data and key commentary from Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell for further cues on monetary policy and rate cuts.



Markets Dip as Trump's New Tariffs on China Rattle Global Sentiment

Indian equity markets ended lower on Monday, dragged down by IT and FMCG stocks, as global markets reacted negatively to fresh trade tensions between the US and China. The downturn followed US President Donald Trump's announcement of a 100% tariff on Chinese imports starting November 1.

The BSE Sensex slipped 173.77 points, or 0.21%, to close at 82,327.05, snapping its two-day winning streak. Earlier in the session, it plunged as much as 457.68 points to a low of 82,043.14, reflecting investor caution amid global uncertainty.

The broader NSE Nifty fell 58 points, or 0.23%, to settle at 25,227.35. Among the 50 constituents, 30 ended in the red, 19 in green, while one remained unchanged.

Sectorally, IT and FMCG stocks bore the brunt of the sell-off. Major laggards included Tata Motors, Infosys, Hindustan Unilever, Bharat Electronics, ITC, and UltraTech Cement. The renewed tariff threat has sparked fears of a further slowdown in global trade, dampening investor sentiment across Asian and European markets.

"With Trump's announcement of additional tariffs on Chinese exports, markets globally have turned risk-averse," said a market analyst at a domestic brokerage. "Investors are also booking profits ahead of key US economic data and corporate earnings reports due later this week."

The imposition of new tariffs threatens to disrupt fragile global supply chains already dealing with inflationary pressures and geopolitical uncertainties.

On the domestic front, concerns also linger over the impact of high gold and commodity prices on inflation and consumption, especially ahead of the festive season.

Going forward, investors will closely watch developments around US-China trade talks, inflation data, and commentary from central banks for further cues.

GST Cut on Renewables to 5% Aims to Power India's Green Future

The government's decision to rationalize GST rates across the renewable energy value chain from 12% to 5% is set to bring down the cost of clean energy projects, making electricity more affordable for households, farmers, industries, and developers. According to the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, the move will significantly reduce capital costs for utility-scale projects, rooftop solar systems, and solar pumps, while strengthening India's clean energy ecosystem.

For large-scale solar projects, where the cost typically stands at 3.5-4 crore per MW, the revised GST is expected to generate savings of 20-25 lakh per MW. A 500 MW solar park, for instance, could see project costs cut by over 100 crore, improving tariff competitiveness and lowering the financial burden on distribution companies (DISCOMs). Nationwide, annual savings of 2,000-3,000 crore in power procurement costs are anticipated. Households will also benefit as rooftop solar systems become cheaper: A 3 kW system will now cost 9,000-10,500 less, accelerating adoption under the PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana. Farmers under the PM-KUSUM scheme are expected to save nearly 17,500 on a 5 HP solar pump, translating into a collective saving of 1,750 crore across 10 lakh pumps, making irrigation more sustainable and cost-effective.

The reform is also set to enhance competitiveness of Indian-made solar equipment, reducing module and component costs by 3-4%. With India targeting 300 GW of renewable capacity by 2030, a modest 2-3% cost reduction could free up investments worth 1-1.5 lakh crore, while creating 5-7 lakh jobs in the next decade. Faster renewable deployment will also help India avoid 50-70 million tonnes of CO2 emissions annually by 2030.

Effective from September 22, 2025, the GST cut is being hailed as a landmark step to advance India's green growth, energy independence, and Paris Agreement commitments.



How the Immune System Is Kept in Check: Nobel-Winning Discovery

The 2025 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine was awarded to U.S.-based researchers Mary E. Brunkow, Fred Ramsdell, and Japan's Shimon Sakaguchi for their groundbreaking discovery on how the immune system is regulated to prevent it from attacking the body itself. Their work on "peripheral immune tolerance" has deepened our understanding of immune system balance

and opened pathways for new treatments in cancer and autoimmune diseases. The immune system is vital in defending the body against infections and harmful invaders. However, if it is not properly controlled, it can mistakenly attack the body's own cells, leading to autoimmune disorders such as lupus, rheumatoid arthritis, and type 1 diabetes. Until now, scientists struggled

to understand why most people do not develop such conditions despite the immune system's power. The three laureates independently identified a specific type of immune cell known as regulatory T cells, or Tregs. These cells act as peacekeepers, preventing the immune system's aggressive cells from attacking healthy tissues. By doing so, regulatory T cells maintain what scientists

call "immune tolerance," ensuring the immune system targets only harmful threats and not the body's own organs. This discovery has profound implications for medicine. Understanding how regulatory T cells function has paved the way for new therapies aimed at enhancing or suppressing immune responses. For example, boosting Treg activity could help treat

autoimmune diseases, while blocking their function may improve cancer immunotherapy by allowing the immune system to better attack tumors. The Nobel laureates' research marks a significant milestone in immunology, offering hope for better management of diseases caused by immune system dysfunction and advancing personalized medical treatments.



China's Holiday Traffic Jam Turns 36-Lane Highway Into Sea of Red Lights



Millions of travellers returning home after China's National Day and Mid-Autumn Festival caused an enormous traffic jam, turning a 36-lane highway into a glowing sea of red lights. The massive congestion unfolded at Wuzhuang toll station in Anhui province, one of China's largest toll booths. Drone footage and videos shared on social media showed thousands of cars lined up bumper to bumper, causing hours-long standstills. Officials reported that around 1,20,000 vehicles passed through the station on the day the jam occurred, with queues

stretching endlessly. The traffic chaos erupted at the end of the long holiday week, which ran from October 1 to October 8. To ease the gridlock, authorities urged drivers to take alternative routes. Additionally, Shenzhen extended the operating hours of its underground and bus services to help reduce pressure on roadways. Social media users reacted with a mix of humor and disbelief. Comments ranged from "I would rather die than be in that jam" to "The cars on the left side look like something straight out of a video game." Some noted the irony of such a massive jam

in a tech-advanced country, saying, "I thought China was at the peak of technology. Toll booths are 20th-century." Others praised the organization, calling it a "pretty organised traffic jam." China has faced notorious traffic jams before, including the infamous 12-day jam in 2010 on the Beijing-Tibet motorway, where vehicles were stranded for days due to truck breakdowns. This recent congestion highlights the challenges faced by China's massive population during major holiday travel, making even a 36-lane highway buckle under the pressure.

Stunning View of Mount Everest Captured from Space by NASA Astronaut

A breathtaking photograph of Mount Everest and the surrounding Himalayan peaks taken from space has left the world in awe. NASA astronaut Don Pettit captured this extraordinary image during his recent six-month mission aboard the International Space Station (ISS), which lasted 220 days and concluded earlier this year. Mount Everest, the world's tallest mountain standing at 8,848.86 meters, is located in Nepal's Solukhumbu district and is a symbol of nature's grandeur and a challenge for mountaineers worldwide. Pettit shared the photo on X (formerly Twitter), captioning it, "Orbiting the Himalayas mountain range. Mount Everest is in this photo, with much of Nepal visible as well." The image clearly shows not only Everest but also other towering peaks of the Himalayas, offering a rare and majestic perspective from space. The photograph has captivated social media users, garnering over three lakh views. Many

expressed their admiration, calling it "amazing," "beautiful," and "breathtaking." Some compared the snowy mountain ridges to ocean waves, highlighting the unique perspective the photo offers. This stunning space photo comes just days after residents in Bihar's Madhubani district reported an unusual sighting of Mount Everest. After rains cleared the skies, locals captured images of Everest and the nearby peaks of the Mahalangur Himal sub-range, including Lhotse, Makalu, and Mera Peak, visible from Jainagar, Bihar. Such clear views from Bihar are rare and reminiscent of the times during the Great Trigonometric Survey of India in the 19th century. Mount Everest has occasionally been spotted from Bihar, notably during the COVID-19 lockdown when reduced pollution cleared the skies. This latest space photo adds to the growing fascination with the iconic peak and the majestic Himalayan range.



Train Ran for 3 Years for Just One Schoolgirl in Japan

In a heartwarming example of prioritising education over economics, a train in Japan ran for three years with just one passenger on board — a schoolgirl named Kana Harada. The rare gesture took place on Hokkaido island, where local authorities and the railway company decided to keep the Kyu-Shirataki Station operational solely for Kana's commute to school. In 2016, due to a significant drop in population, the railway authorities had planned to shut down the station. At one point, only 36 residents remained in the area. The station had seen a sharp decline in passengers, making it financially unviable to



continue operations. However, Kana, who depended on the train to attend school, faced a major setback if the service stopped. Moved by her situation, the railway company made a rare and compassionate

decision — to continue the train service for three more years, just for Kana. Every morning, the train would arrive to pick her up for school, and return in the evening to drop her back home. Most days, she was the sole passenger.

The story drew international attention and admiration, as it highlighted Japan's commitment to education and its citizens, even in remote areas. The decision stood in stark contrast to the profit-driven logic often seen in public service cuts. In a world where trains in countries like India now face overcrowding, with passengers struggling even to secure waitlisted tickets during festive seasons like Diwali and Chhath Puja, the story of Kana's train is both extraordinary and inspiring. It serves as a reminder of empathy and commitment can make a world of difference — even if it's for just one person.

Rs 1.25 Billion Lottery Winner Missing in Australia; Search Underway

A mystery surrounds the winner of Australia's biggest Oz Lotto jackpot after a \$15 million (approx. Rs 1.25 billion) prize went unclaimed more than 38 hours after the draw. The winning ticket, from Draw No. 1651 held on October 7, 2025, was sold at Greenhills Newsagency in East Maitland, New South Wales, but the lucky ticket-holder has yet to come forward. Despite extensive nationwide publicity, there is still no sign of the winner. Officials have urged anyone who bought a ticket at the store to double-check their numbers. The winning combination was 44, 46, 39, 34, 7, 15, and 3, with supplementary numbers 24, 19, and 13. However, since the ticket was not registered with The Lott Members Club, the lottery operator cannot directly contact the winner. Tierna Perry, a staff member at Greenhills Newsagency, expressed amazement at the huge jackpot. "We've sold



winning tickets before, but nothing close to this," she said. "We hope the winner realises soon that they're the new millionaire everyone is talking about." Authorities are reviewing CCTV footage from the store to identify the purchaser. According to New South Wales lottery laws, the winner has up to six years to claim the prize, or else the money will return to the state treasury. This case follows another

unclaimed massive jackpot in June 2025, when a \$100 million Powerball prize went unclaimed. Matt Hart, senior official at The Lott, noted that it is rare for winners not to claim such large sums quickly. "When winners don't come forward, it leaves everyone wondering what might have happened," he said. In 2025, there have been 326 Division One wins nationwide, with 92 in New South Wales, including a recent \$100 million winner from Elizabeth Hills.

IPL 2026 Auction Likely Mid-December; Retention Deadline November 15

The IPL 2026 auction is expected to take place between December 13 and 15, according to discussions between franchise officials and BCCI authorities, although the exact dates are yet to be finalized by the IPL Governing Council.

Unlike the last two editions, which saw auctions held overseas—first in Dubai (2023) and then in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia (2024)—this year’s auction is likely to be conducted in India, sources suggest. However, no official confirmation on the venue has been made yet.

Franchises are required to submit their retention lists by November 15, confirming which players they will keep and which ones will be released ahead of the auction. Early indications suggest there won’t be a major shakeup in player retention, except possibly from struggling teams like Chennai Super Kings (CSK) and Rajasthan Royals (RR).

Reportedly, players like Deepak Hooda, Vijay Shankar, Rahul Tripathi, Sam Curran, and Devon Conway could be released by CSK, which already has INR 9.75 crore in budget space following R. Ashwin’s retirement. For Rajasthan Royals, Sanju Samson’s future remains uncertain unless a trade deal is made.

There are also rumors about the potential release of Sri Lankan spinners Wanindu Hasaranga and Maheesh Theekshana, but the return of Kumar Sangakkara as head coach may influence those decisions.

Other players who might find themselves looking for new teams include T Natarajan, Mitchell Starc, Akash Deep, Mayank Yadav, and David Miller. Meanwhile, Cameron Green is expected to be one of the marquee names at the auction, having missed the last due to injury.

Franchise buzz and final decisions are awaited as the retention deadline approaches.



Satwik-Chirag Eye First Title of Season at Denmark Open

India’s top men’s doubles pair Satwik-sairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty are set to lead the country’s challenge at the prestigious Denmark Open Super 750 badminton tournament, starting Tuesday in Odense. With a prize pool of \$950,000, the event attracts the world’s best shuttlers, and the Indian duo aims to convert their recent good form into their first title of the season.

Seeded sixth in the tournament, Satwik and Chirag enter as the reigning Asian Games champions, adding to their growing confidence. They will kick off their campaign against the Scottish pair Christopher Grimley and Matthew Grimley, hoping to make a strong start on Danish courts.

Over the past season, Satwik and Chirag have shown flashes of brilliance, reaching the finals in several major events but have yet to



Healy’s wonderful hundred powers Australia to 3-wicket win over India

Australia pulled off the highest-ever successful run chase in women’s ODI history, defeating India by three wickets in a thrilling ICC Women’s ODI World Cup clash at the ACA-VDCA Stadium on Sunday. Skipper Alyssa Healy led from the front with a magnificent 142 off 107 balls, guiding her team past India’s formidable total of 330.

Healy’s innings — her sixth WODI century and first as Australia’s captain — was a masterclass in timing, power, and composure. She reached her hundred with a single off Deepti Sharma and acknowledged the milestone with a calm wave of the bat. Her knock included 21 boundaries and three sixes, setting the tone for the record-breaking chase.

India had earlier posted a challenging total of 330, with key contributions from Smriti Mandhana and young batter Pratika Rawal, both scoring crucial fifties. Despite the mounting pressure, Australia responded with confidence and control, with Healy anchoring the innings and receiving valuable support from the middle order.

India fought back with quick wickets in the later stages, but Australia’s depth and experience prevailed. Ellyse Perry and Kim Garth ensured there were no last-minute hiccups, guiding their side home with just a few balls to spare.

The match was a showcase of high-quality women’s cricket and saw the Visakhapatnam crowd witness history. Healy’s knock will go down as one of the finest in World Cup history, not just for its brilliance but for the context and pressure under which it came.

Australia, with this win, strengthens its position in the tournament while India will look to bounce back quickly from the narrow defeat.

West Indies set India 121-run target to win 2nd Test

India were set a modest target of 121 runs to win the second and final Test after bowling out the West Indies for 390 in their second innings on Day 4 at the Arun Jaitley Stadium in New Delhi.

Following on, the West Indies showed remarkable resilience, largely led by centuries from opener John Campbell (115) and Shai Hope (103), who stitched together a crucial 177-run partnership for the third wicket. At one point, the visitors stood strong at 212/2, sparking hopes of a turnaround.

However, a dramatic collapse saw them slump to 311/9, with Indian bowlers Jasprit Bumrah and Kuldeep Yadav leading the charge. Both claimed three wickets apiece to bring India back into control. Mohammed Siraj and Ravindra Jadeja chipped in with a wicket each.

Just when it seemed the West Indies innings would wrap up quickly, the final-wicket pair of Justin Greaves (50 not out) and Jayden Seales (32) frustrated the Indian bowlers with a gritty 79-run stand, extending into the final session. Their efforts delayed India’s victory charge and pushed the total close to the 400-mark.

Bumrah (3/44) eventually ended the resistance by dismissing Seales, closing the innings at 390 and bringing India’s target to a gettable 121. Despite the follow-on, West Indies’ second innings was their best batting performance of the tour, displaying fight and character.

India now head into Day 5 needing 121 runs to clinch the series 2-0. With ample time left and a manageable target, the hosts will be confident of sealing the victory, although they will be wary of early morning pressure and pitch behavior.

The stage is set for an exciting final day.



Coco Gauff Clinches Wuhan Open Title in All-American Final



Coco Gauff continued her stellar season by defeating fellow American Jessica Pegula 6-4, 7-5 to win the Wuhan Open on Sunday, claiming her second title of the year and the 11th of her career.

In a high-intensity final between two of America’s top tennis stars, the 21-year-old Gauff displayed her trademark athleticism and resilience. After splitting early breaks in the first set, Gauff surged ahead, reeling off four consecutive games to take the opener 6-4.

The second set was a tighter affair. Pegula, seeded higher, pushed Gauff with her aggressive baseline play, but the younger star held her nerve. Trailing 3-5, Gauff mounted a strong comeback, winning four games in a row to close out the match in straight sets.

This victory adds to Gauff’s growing list of accomplishments in 2025. She won the French Open earlier this year, proving her strength on clay, and has now triumphed on hard courts in Wuhan. Her versatility across surfaces and maturity in high-pressure matches continue to draw praise from fans and analysts alike.

With this win, Gauff becomes one of the few active players to win 11 career titles before turning 22, reinforcing her status as a rising icon in women’s tennis. Pegula, though falling short in the final, showed her consistency in reaching another major tournament final and remains a strong contender on the WTA Tour.

Gauff’s Wuhan title cements her place among the elite players this season as she eyes further success in the WTA Finals and upcoming Grand Slams.



Siddu Jonnalagadda Starrer Telusu Kada Trailer Launched

Celebrity stylist Neeraja Kona is stepping into the director's chair with her debut film Telusu Kada, a romantic drama featuring Siddu Jonnalagadda, Raashii Khanna, and Srinidhi Shetty in lead roles. The makers of the film launched the theatrical trailer at a grand event held today, creating a buzz among fans and the industry.

At the event, lead actor Siddu Jonnalagadda expressed his gratitude to the audience for their overwhelming response to the trailer. "I love my audiences always. Looking at the excitement and response, I believe everyone liked the trailer," he said. Choosing to keep his speech short, Siddu promised to speak in more detail at the pre-release event.

He also highlighted a

unique aspect of the film's storytelling, stating, "We showed emotional intimacy in Telusu Kada, not physical intimacy. Hence, we avoided kiss scenes. Even without a kiss scene, the interval scene will leave a strong impact."

Produced by TG Vishwa Prasad and Krithi Prasad under the People Media Factory banner, Telusu Kada brings a

fresh romantic narrative to Telugu cinema. Music for the film is composed by the acclaimed S Thaman, adding emotional depth to the story through his score.

Neeraja Kona, known for her styling work with several top actors, has taken a significant leap with this film, marking her evolution in the industry as a filmmaker. With a talented cast, heartfelt storytelling,

and strong production backing, Telusu Kada is set for a grand theatrical release on October 17, 2025.

The film's trailer has already garnered attention online and raised expectations among fans of romantic dramas. As the release date nears, audiences eagerly await what promises to be an emotionally engaging experience on the big screen.

Anand Deverakonda Transforms for Netflix's Takshakudu

Netflix has officially announced its upcoming Telugu original film Takshakudu, featuring Anand Deverakonda in a bold new avatar. The film marks a reunion between Anand and director Vinod Anantoju, the duo behind the critically acclaimed Middle Class Melodies. This time, they return with a gritty and intense revenge drama, signaling a sharp departure from their earlier work.

In Takshakudu, Anand Deverakonda takes on the role of a Naxalite, showcasing a fierce and rebellious character. The first-look poster, unveiled by Netflix, features the actor in a rug-

ged, militant appearance with a powerful tagline: "In the history of a hunter, deers are the culprits." The line hints at a narrative filled with social commentary and emotional depth.

The film also introduces Laapataa Ladies actress Nitanshi Goel to the Telugu audience, marking her Tollywood debut. Her inclusion adds a fresh dimension to the cast and raises curiosity about her role in the intense storyline.

Takshakudu is being produced by two renowned production houses—Sithara Entertainments and Fortune Four Cinema—known for delivering quality content. The project has

been in the making with careful attention to storytelling and production values, reflecting Netflix's continued push to invest in regional and genre-defining content.

While the premiere date is yet to be announced, Netflix has confirmed that more updates will follow soon. With a strong team, a compelling subject, and Anand Deverakonda in a never-seen-before role, Takshakudu is shaping up to be a promising addition to Netflix's slate of Telugu originals.

Audiences can expect a gripping tale of resistance and retribution when Takshakudu hits the streaming platform in the coming months.

Kantara Chapter 1 Crosses \$4M in North America

The divine action saga Kantara Chapter 1 continues its victorious run at the box office, especially in international markets. Directed by and starring Rishab Shetty, the film has struck a chord with audiences worldwide, and its performance in North America has been nothing short of phenomenal.

As of its second Sunday, the film has officially crossed the \$4 million mark at the North American box office. This remarkable feat highlights the growing appeal of Kannada cinema on the global stage and reaffirms the film's strong connect with the Indian diaspora as well as local audiences. With the current momentum, trade experts predict that Kantara Chapter 1 could breach the \$5 million milestone in the coming days.



Rishab Shetty, who received widespread acclaim for the original Kantara, returns with more intensity in this prequel chapter. Alongside him, Rukmini Vasanth plays a crucial role with negative shades, adding depth to the mythological and action-driven narrative. Jayaram and Gulshan Devaiyah also play pivotal characters in the film.

Backed by the prestigious Hombale Films, known for blockbusters like KGF and Salaar, Kantara Chapter 1 carries the production house's trademark qual-

ity and vision. The film is further elevated by a powerful background score and music composed by B. Ajaneesh Loknath, which plays a vital role in amplifying its divine and intense atmosphere.

The success of Kantara Chapter 1 in North America underscores the global appetite for culturally rooted Indian stories told with cinematic flair. As the film inches toward more milestones, it stands as a proud representation of Kannada cinema's growing influence worldwide.

SSMB 29 Actress Priyanka Chopra Shines at Diwali Bash

Bollywood star Priyanka Chopra, who is gearing up for the much-anticipated Indian film SSMB29 directed by SS Rajamouli and starring superstar Mahesh Babu, stole the spotlight at fashion designer Manish Malhotra's All That Glitters Diwali Ball 2025 in Mumbai.

Accompanied by her husband, international pop sensation Nick Jonas, the couple dazzled attendees with their coordinated white ensembles. Priyanka looked stunning in a chic Indo-Western outfit featuring a sarong-style choli paired with a silver mirror-work jacket and matching trousers, blending traditional and contemporary

styles effortlessly. Nick complemented her perfectly in a white mirror-work sherwani, making them one of the most talked-about couples of the evening. Together, they exuded elegance and grace, instantly becoming the center of attention at the star-studded event.

The glamorous Diwali party saw several Bollywood celebrities, including Bhumi Pednekar, Nora Fatehi, and Sidharth Malhotra, gracing the occasion in exquisite designer outfits. However, it was Priyanka's unique style and radiant presence that truly outshone many of her contemporaries.

The buzz around SSMB29 is growing

rapidly, and Priyanka's appearance at the event has only added to the excitement. Fans are eagerly awaiting the release of this film, which promises to be a major cinematic spectacle with SS Rajamouli's signature direction and Mahesh Babu's stellar performance.

Meanwhile, Priyanka continues to balance her global career in both Bollywood and Hollywood while maintaining a high profile on the fashion and social scenes, as seen at the Diwali bash.

With this dazzling look and her rising prominence, Priyanka Chopra remains one of the most influential and stylish actresses in the industry.



Sivakarthikeyan's Parasakthi Completes Filming

Sivakarthikeyan's much-anticipated period action drama Parasakthi has officially wrapped up its shoot. Directed by acclaimed filmmaker Sudha Kongara, the film stars Sreeleela as the female lead and promises to deliver a powerful cinematic experience set against a historical backdrop.

Following the mixed response to Madharaasi, Sivakarthikeyan is gearing up for a strong comeback with Parasakthi, which has generated considerable buzz since its announcement. With filming now complete, the project has entered post-production, and the makers are working intensively to ensure a polished final product.

The film is set for a grand theatrical release on January 14, 2026, perfectly timed to coincide with the Sankranthi festival, a major box office season in South India. Expectations are high, as the Sankranthi slot often features major releases and big budget

entertainers.

Parasakthi boasts a stellar ensemble cast, including Ravi Mohan, Atharvaa, Rana Daggubati, and Basil Joseph, all playing significant roles in the narrative. The film's scale, combined with Sudha Kongara's storytelling prowess, is expected to deliver a compelling mix of action, drama, and emotion.

Produced by Dawn Pictures, the film is backed by a strong technical team. Music is composed by G.V. Prakash Kumar, marking another promising collaboration with Sudha Kongara. His score is expected to play a key role in elevating the film's period setting and emotional depth.

With the shoot wrapped and the release date locked, Parasakthi is now one of the most anticipated releases of early 2026. Fans of Sivakarthikeyan and lovers of period dramas alike are eagerly awaiting more updates, including the teaser and audio launch events in the coming weeks.